

REMARKS

This application was allowed on June 29, 2004. The issue fee is paid concurrently herewith.

Applicant has amended page 1 of the specification to update the reference to patent application 06/223,108 to add the "06" series code and to indicate that the application is now abandoned.

Applicant withdraws and disclaims his claim to benefit from United States patent application 118,084, filed February 4, 1980, now United States Patent No. 4,530,901. Thus, applicant no longer claims the benefit of that application under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Accordingly, applicant has amended page 1 of the specification to delete the back reference to that application.

Applicant withdraws and disclaims his claim of priority from European patent application 80.300079.3, filed January 8, 1980; European patent application 80301100.6, filed April 3, 1980; and United Kingdom patent application 8031737, filed October 2, 1980. Thus, applicant no longer claims priority from those applications under 35 U.S.C. § 119.

These amendments and disclaimers are consistent with the Examiner's statement that the earliest filing date to which the allowed claims are entitled is that of patent application 06/223,108, i.e., January 7, 1981 (see January 16, 2003 Office Action at page 3, second

paragraph). Therefore, no new matter is added and no further search or examination is required as a result of these amendments.

The amendments and disclaimers also have no effect on patent term. This application was filed on June 7, 1995 and hence is a pre-GATT filing. It is entitled to a patent term of 17 years from the grant date.

CONCLUSION

Applicant requests approval and entry of the amendments, without withdrawal of the application from issue. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would help resolve any outstanding matters, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at any time.

Respectfully submitted,



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